EXPEDITED PROCEDURE **EXAMINING GROUP 1646**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Donoho et al.

Group Art Unit:

1646

Application No.:

09/733,387

Examiner:

R. Li

Filed:

12/07/2000

Atty. Docket No.: LEX-0104-USA

Title: Novel Human Membrane Proteins and

Polynucleotides Encoding the Same

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 17, 2003

Box AF **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

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MAR 2 1 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

The Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Office Action ("the Action") mailed on January 17, 2003 (Paper No. 13), which has been carefully reviewed and studied. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following remarks. In order to facilitate the Examiner's evaluation of the application, Applicants have attempted to address the rejections in Paper No. 13 in the same order in which they were originally raised.

The two month deadline for filing a response to a Final Office Action as set forth in Manual of Patent Examination Procedure, Section 706.07(f)(A) is March 17, 2003. The response is thus timely filed, and Applicants believe no fees are due in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0892.